

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NOAA FISHERIES' COMMUNITY-BASED  
RESTORATION PROGRAM

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment has been prepared for the implementation of NOAA Fisheries' Community-Based Restoration Program (CRP) of the Office of Habitat Conservation. Activities under the CRP are designed to have a long-term beneficial impact on living marine resources. Any adverse impacts associated with CRP restoration projects are expected to be minimal, localized, and short-term. All best management practices will be utilized to ensure that adverse impacts are avoided or minimized.

The public and other interested parties have participated in review of the Draft EA for implementation of this program. The proposed activities were evaluated according to the evaluation factors under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1508.27). Based on a review of all of these factors and the referenced documents, NOAA has concluded that the proposed activities would not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. NOAA concludes that an EIS will not need to be prepared. A copy of the environmental assessment and supporting documentation are available from the Office of Habitat Conservation, NOAA Fisheries, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**DETERMINATION:**

Based upon an environmental review and evaluation of the Environmental Assessment for the NOAA Fisheries' Community-Based Restoration Program, I have determined that the proposed action does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended. Accordingly, an environmental impact statement is not required for this project.

*Rebecca Lent*

William T. Hogarth, Ph.D.  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
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*2/7/02*

Date